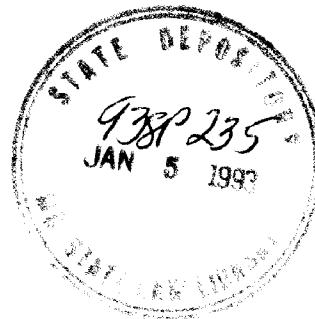


IN THE COURT OF APPEALS OF MARYLAND

**IN RE: CERTIFICATION OF NEEDS FOR ADDITIONAL
JUDGEShips FOR FISCAL 1993**



TO: The President of the Senate
The Speaker of the House of Delegates

FROM: Robert C. Murphy, Chief Judge

DATE: December 31, 1991

MD-TU 1.1:CON/1993

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ROBERT C. MURPHY
CHIEF JUDGE
COURT OF APPEALS OF MARYLAND
COURTS OF APPEAL BUILDING
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401-1699

December 31, 1991

Honorable Thomas V. "Mike" Miller, Jr.
President of the Senate
State House
Annapolis, Maryland 21401-1991

Honorable R. Clayton Mitchell, Jr.
Speaker of the House
State House
Annapolis, Maryland 21401-1991

Re: Judgeship Needs for Fiscal Year 1993

Gentlemen:

I am herewith submitting my annual certification of need for additional judgeships for Fiscal Year 1993. As the data indicates, a need is demonstrated for at least one additional Circuit Court judge in the counties of Cecil, Howard, Frederick, Calvert, Prince George's, and St. Mary's, and in Baltimore City. There is also a need for an additional District Court judgeship in Montgomery County.

In view of the present financial position of the State, I have decided not to request any additional judgeships in FY '93. Instead, the judges will further intensify their efforts to "make do" with our present complement without sacrificing the quality or timeliness of justice rendered in the courts, until better fiscal times are upon us. As in the past, we will utilize retired judges to fill "gaps" in our judicial manpower to the extent that funds for this purpose are available for expenditure.

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For your information, the present complement of judges is as follows:

Court of Appeals	7
Court of Special Appeals	13
Circuit Court	120*
District Court	97

*Three new Circuit Court judgeships are effective January 1, 1992, as a result of legislation passed at the 1991 Session of the General Assembly.

CIRCUIT COURTS

In Fiscal 1991, a total of 238,852 circuit court filings were reported, compared to 225,919 cases filed in Fiscal 1990 (excluding juvenile matters filed in Montgomery County). This represents a difference of 12,933 additional filings or an increase of approximately 5.7 percent in total filings. Increases were reported in civil filings, 6.0 percent and criminal filings, 14.9 percent, while juvenile filings decreased by 10.6 percent. Since Fiscal 1984, total filings have increased 48.3 percent or 77,814 additional filings.

Prayers for jury trials emanating from the District Court continue to decrease statewide and since Fiscal Year 1989 represent a shrinking share of the total criminal caseload. Prayers for jury trials decreased by approximately 10 percent in FY '91. In FY '89, jury trial prayers accounted for 51.2 percent of criminal filings, while in FY '91 they represented only 36.1 percent. This trend may be attributed to judicially-devised plans designed to reduce prayers emanating from the District Court in Baltimore City, Baltimore County, Montgomery County, and Harford County.

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Jury Trial Prayers Pre- and Post Chapter 608 of the Acts of 1981											
	Pre-Ch.608	Post-Chapter 608									
	FY 81	FY 82	FY 83	FY 84	FY 85	FY 86	FY 87	FY 88	FY 89	FY 90	FY 91
Baltimore City*	5,925	2,034	3,209	4,128	5,948	7,407	8,698	8,714	7,905	4,061	3,140
Anne Arundel County	503	381	392	459	720	922	1,066	1,343	2,037	2,045	2,383
Baltimore County	1,312	1,050	1,424	1,513	2,245	3,363	4,348	4,683	5,499	5,691	4,002
Montgomery County	636	489	1,223	1,924	2,631	2,511	3,560	3,955	3,709	2,210	1,810
Prince George's County	952	895	1,583	2,755	4,043	4,348	4,003	3,111	2,937	3,314	2,955
All Other Counties	2,962	1,399	1,930	2,414	3,593	4,733	6,569	7,978	9,339	10,562	10,814
TOTAL	12,290	6,248	9,761	13,193	19,180	23,284	28,244	29,784	31,426	27,883	25,104

*Based on number of defendants provided by the Criminal Assignment Office of the Circuit Court for Baltimore City.

While prayers for jury trials have decreased, indictments and criminal informations have increased dramatically. Since FY '87, indictment/information filings have increased by 59.7 percent and represent a 47.8 percent share of the criminal caseload.

Indictment Information Filings					
	FY 87	FY 88	FY 89	FY 90	FY 91
Baltimore City	5,520	6,157	6,271	8,405	13,351
Anne Arundel County	2,037	2,045	2,117	2,493	3,281
Baltimore County	2,650	2,542	2,892	2,974	2,910
Montgomery County	2,005	2,259	2,626	2,371	1,943
Prince George's County	3,104	3,913	4,419	4,326	4,340
All Other Counties	5,469	5,960	7,223	7,701	7,363
TOTAL	20,785	22,876	25,548	28,270	33,188

CIRCUIT-BY-CIRCUIT ANALYSIS

First Circuit

The First Judicial Circuit is comprised of the four counties situated in the southern portion of the Eastern Shore of Maryland which includes Dorchester, Somerset, Wicomico, and Worcester Counties. The population in this area of the state has increased by more than 24,000 over the last decade to a projected July 1, 1992 population of 169,800.

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Although civil and juvenile filings have fluctuated over the last five years, overall filings in the First Circuit have increased steadily due primarily to a constant increase in criminal filings. Since Fiscal 1987 when 7,670 total filings were reported, the First Circuit has realized an overall increase of 19.8 percent to the Fiscal 1991 level of 9,190 total filings. Dorchester County was the only jurisdiction within the circuit to report a decrease in total filings since Fiscal 1987.

Over the last five years, delinquency and C.I.N.A. filings have constituted the majority of the juvenile caseload, while the civil caseload has been dominated by domestic-related cases. While there have been fluctuations in the civil and juvenile areas, criminal filings consistently have increased by 31.5 percent since Fiscal 1987. The pervasiveness of criminal activity in the more rural areas of the state has become evident by the significant increase in indictment/information filings; since Fiscal 1987, there has been a 60.9 percent increase in indictment/information filings. The situation is complicated further by an increase of 28.4 percent over the same period of time in jury trial prayers.

Second Circuit

The northern portion of the Eastern Shore incorporates the Second Judicial Circuit of Maryland including: Caroline, Cecil, Kent, Queen Anne's and Talbot Counties. The July 1, 1992 population projection of 186,500 represents an increase of nearly 35,000 over the last decade.

Since Fiscal 1987, overall filings in the Second Circuit have increased by 55.3 percent, from 6,259 filings in Fiscal 1987 to the Fiscal 1991 level of 9,721 filings. Each of the five counties in the circuit have reported general increases over the last five fiscal years with the most significant increase occurring in Queen Anne's County (73.3 percent). With respect to case type, civil, criminal, and juvenile filings all increased over the last five years by 61.6 percent, 49.0 percent, and 36.4 percent, respectively. Categorically, increases in domestic-related cases attributed to the overall increase in civil filings, while a constant influx of delinquency and C.I.N.A. filings resulted in the upward trend realized in juvenile filings. Both jury trial prayers and indictment/information filings escalated over the five-year period and represent an 84.0 percent and 27.0 percent increase, respectively.

Third Circuit

Baltimore and Harford Counties make up the Third Judicial Circuit of Maryland. Both counties have realized a continued increase in population amounting to more than 36,000 people since 1980. It is projected that by July 1, 1992, the population in Baltimore

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County will be 691,000, while Harford County's population is expected to increase to 183,200.

Reductions in criminal and juvenile filings have resulted in the first decrease reported in overall filings in Baltimore County over the last five fiscal years. Contributing to the decrease in criminal filings was a nearly 30 percent decrease reported in jury trial prayers for Fiscal 1991. Delinquency and C.I.N.A. filings decreased by 11.4 percent and 17.3 percent, respectively, resulting in a 12.8 percent decrease in overall juvenile filings. For the second consecutive year, Harford County also reported a decrease in overall filings (3.4 percent). Unlike Baltimore County, a reduction in civil filings resulting from a decreased number of domestic-related cases contributed to the overall decrease reported in Harford County during Fiscal 1991.

Fourth Circuit

The Fourth Judicial Circuit, which is contained within the far western corner of the state is comprised of Allegany, Garrett and Washington Counties. It is projected that by July 1, 1992, the population in the Fourth Circuit will be approximately 218,500. That figure represents a slight decrease of less than one percent from the last decade. Washington County is the only jurisdiction within the Fourth Circuit projecting an increase of populous over the last decade (7,980 additional inhabitants).

Overall filings in the Fourth Circuit have increased steadily over the last five fiscal years. After increasing by more than fifty percent since Fiscal 1987, criminal filings decreased for the first time since Fiscal 1984. A 15.4 percent decrease in indictment/information filings, as well as a 15.8 percent decrease in jury trial prayers in Washington County contributed to the overall decrease in criminal filings during Fiscal 1991.

Fifth Circuit

The Fifth Judicial Circuit of Maryland is formed by Anne Arundel, Carroll, and Howard Counties. The sixteen judges assigned to the circuit include nine from Anne Arundel County, three from Carroll County, and four from Howard County. The July 1, 1992 projected population of 775,600 ranks the Fifth Circuit as the second fastest growing circuit in the state.

Although Anne Arundel County has experienced fluctuating judicial activity, overall filings in the Fifth Circuit have increased steadily over the last five fiscal years. The most significant increase has occurred in criminal filings which have increased by 74.8 percent

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since Fiscal 1987. Increases in indictment/information filings and jury trial prayers continue to contribute to the upward trend of criminal case filings in the Fifth Circuit.

With respect to other factors affecting judicial activity, Anne Arundel County ranks first in filings per judge (2,959) and second in dispositions per judge (2,571). Additionally, Anne Arundel County reported the third longest time in disposing juvenile cases, while reporting the ninth and tenth longest disposition rates for criminal and civil cases, respectively. Howard County ranks fifth (224 days) in disposing civil cases, and seventh (1,846) in filings per judge.

Sixth Circuit

The Sixth Circuit is comprised of Frederick and Montgomery Counties. With a projected July 1, 1992 population of 954,600 this circuit continues to be the fastest growing area in the state, an increase of more than 133,000 people over the last decade. The growth rate is evidenced by Montgomery County's ranking as second in population per judge (51,640), as well as Frederick County's ranking as third (50,900). Montgomery County also ranks first in attorneys per judge (299).

While Frederick County has realized a constant increase in filings over the last five years, Montgomery County has experienced a decrease in overall filings over the last two fiscal years. Attributing to the decrease is the reduction in the number of requests for jury trials in Montgomery County, as well as a decline in indictment/information filings.

Frederick County ranks eighth in filings per judge (1,760), while Montgomery County ranks eleventh (1,686). In addition, Montgomery County reported the longest time in both disposition of criminal and juvenile cases, 194 days and 107 days, respectively. Frederick County ranked third (169 days) in the disposition of criminal cases and second (97 days) in disposing juvenile cases.

Seventh Circuit

The Seventh Judicial Circuit is comprised of Calvert, Charles, Prince George's, and St. Mary's Counties. The population in the Seventh Circuit is expected to reach 958,600 by July 1, 1992 which makes it the most populous area of the state. The number of people residing in this circuit may explain why it reported the second highest number of filings (50,728) for Fiscal 1991. Twenty-five judges have been assigned the task of adjudicating this increasing caseload.

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Over the last five fiscal years, filings have increased consistently in the Seventh Circuit, from 43,583 in Fiscal 1987 to the Fiscal 1991 level of 50,728, an increase of 16.4 percent. Each of the functional areas experienced a steady increase over the five year period until the current fiscal year when criminal and juvenile filings both decreased. However, an increase in civil filings resulted in an increase in overall filings. A decrease in jury trial prayers in three of the four counties in the Seventh Circuit contributed to the decrease in criminal filings. An innovative program in Prince George's County to reduce the recidivism rate of juvenile offenders effectively has curtailed the number of juvenile filings in that jurisdiction resulting in the decrease in juvenile filings for Fiscal 1991.

Other workload factors indicate that Calvert County ranks second in filings per judge (2,868) and first in dispositions per judge (3,076). Prince George's County ranks fourth in both filings and dispositions per judge, 2,055 and 1,707, respectively. Additionally, Prince George's County reported the sixth longest disposition rate for civil cases (222 days), as well as for juvenile cases (76 days).

Eighth Circuit

The Eighth Judicial Circuit of Maryland is comprised solely of Baltimore City. The July 1, 1992 projected population for this circuit is 734,600, making Baltimore City the second most populous jurisdiction in the state, although the population has declined by more than 49,200 during the last decade. However, Baltimore City continues to report the highest number of filings from year-to-year (59,393 in Fiscal 1991) with twenty-five judges assigned to adjudicate those cases.

Since Fiscal 1987, the number of filings reported in Baltimore City has increased steadily with the exception of Fiscal 1989 when a 3.8 percent decrease was reported. While civil and juvenile filings have remained relatively constant during the last five fiscal years, criminal filings had started on a downward trend until Fiscal 1991. A nearly 60 percent increase in indictment/information filings has contributed to the overall increase realized in criminal filings during the year.

During Fiscal 1991, Baltimore City ranked third in filings per judge (2,376), as well as in dispositions per judge (2,115). Additionally, Baltimore City reported the second longest time in the disposition of civil cases (231 days) and fourth in disposing juvenile cases (77 days).

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FY 1992 First Quarter Workload Statistics - July 1 to September 30, 1991.

The circuit courts continued to experience an ever-increasing caseload with respect to both filings and terminations. During the first quarter of Fiscal 1992, circuit court filings increased by 5.1 percent, from 56,548 in Fiscal 1991 to the present level of 59,444 filings. Increases were reported in each functional category—civil, criminal, and juvenile. Likewise, terminations increased by 3.1 percent, from 47,754 during the first three months of Fiscal 1991 to the Fiscal 1992 level of 49,240 terminations. Increases were realized in civil and criminal terminations, while juvenile terminations decreased during the quarter.

Civil filings, which accounted for more than 56 percent of the total filings during the first quarter of Fiscal 1992, increased by 4.4 percent. There have been 33,521 civil filings reported thus far in Fiscal 1992, an increase of 1,400 filings over the Fiscal 1991 level of 32,121 filings. Baltimore and Montgomery Counties, increasing by 1.3 percent and 21.2 percent, respectively, were the only major jurisdictions to report increases. There was a 0.8 percent decrease reported in Baltimore City, while Anne Arundel and Prince George's Counties reported decreases of 5.1 percent and 2.2 percent, respectively. Categorically, increases in paternity filings, as well as "unreported" filings contributed to the overall increase reported in civil filings. The increase in the unreported category may be attributed to URESA and Uniform Support cases categorized in that manner in Montgomery County.

Not unlike filings, civil terminations also increased during the first quarter of Fiscal 1992 by 10.1 percent. There were 24,557 terminations reported during the first quarter of the last fiscal year compared to the current level of 27,038 terminations. Anne Arundel and Baltimore Counties reported decreases in civil terminations, while the remaining three major jurisdictions, Baltimore City and Montgomery and Prince George's Counties, all reported increases. With respect to category, the most significant increases were realized in motor tort, appeals from Administrative Agencies, and "unreported" terminations.

Also increasing during the quarter were criminal filings and terminations by 8.8 percent and 4.4 percent, respectively. There were 15,807 criminal filings reported during the first quarter of Fiscal 1991 compared to 17,200 filings during the same period of time in Fiscal 1992. Increases were reported in each of the major jurisdictions with the exception of Baltimore County which reported a 18.7 percent decrease. Anne Arundel County reported the greatest increase, 51.7 percent, followed by Prince George's County with an increase of 29 percent. Baltimore City and Montgomery County reported increases of 2.8 percent and 5.1 percent, respectively. The increase in Anne Arundel County may be somewhat inflated. Because of operations and systems problems associated with the CORTS system in that jurisdiction, there were a lot of cases kicked out of the system during the conversion process

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which are now being re-entered. Those cases are being classified as reopened filing and/or terminations. The increase in Prince George's County can be attributed to the 29 percent increase realized in indictment and information filings which correlates to increased criminal activity. Increases in indictment and information terminations, as well as motor vehicle appeals helped to propel the overall increase in criminal terminations.

Juvenile filings increased by a slight 1.2 percent, while terminations decreased by a rather significant 19.7 percent. There were 8,723 juvenile filings reported during the first quarter of Fiscal 1992, an increase of only 103 filings over the Fiscal 1991 level of 8,620 juvenile filings. Although delinquency and C.I.N.S. filings increased by 4.9 percent and 66.7 percent, respectively, a decrease of 10.9 percent in C.I.N.A. cases resulted in the slight overall increase being reported for the quarter. In contrast, a decrease of 20.3 percent in delinquency terminations coupled with a 18.6 percent decrease in C.I.N.A. terminations resulted in the overall decrease realized in juvenile terminations. One possible explanation for the decrease in juvenile terminations, as well as juvenile hearings may be that Baltimore City was without a master for a couple of months which caused a backlog in cases. Baltimore City juvenile terminations and hearings both decreased significantly, 56 percent and 42.4 percent, respectively.

As mentioned above, juvenile hearings decreased during the quarter. Civil and criminal hearings both increased. Civil hearings increased by 2.9 percent, while criminal hearings increased by 44.6 percent. Criminal court trials and jury trials also increased. Reporting problems in Baltimore City attributed to the significant increases in criminal hearings, court trials, and jury trials.

The following tables provide a more detailed breakdown.

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Circuit Court Filings

	Civil		Criminal		Juvenile	
	1991	1992	1991	1992	1991	1992
Baltimore City	6,180	6,133	5,202	5,348	3,644	3,306
Anne Arundel County	3,869	3,672	1,297	1,967	732	899
Baltimore County	3,564	3,611	2,041	1,659	866	725
Montgomery County	4,543	5,508	1,172	1,232	508	671
Prince George's County	5,333	5,215	1,540	1,986	1,227	1,223
Other 19 Counties	8,632	9,382	4,555	5,008	1,643	1,899
Total	32,121	33,521	15,807	17,200	8,620	8,723

Statewide Total Filings: FY 1991 - 56,548
FY 1992 - 59,444

Circuit Court Terminations

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Hearings, Court Trials, and Jury Trials

	Civil		Criminal		Juvenile	
	1991	1992	1991	1992	1991	1992
Hearings	14,389	14,803	15,249	22,056	17,349	14,812
Court Trials	1,274	1,229	1,278	4,837	--	--
Jury Trials	273	277	345	833	--	--

Jury Trial Prayers

	FY 1990	FY 1991	FY 1992
Baltimore City	2,159	714	794
Anne Arundel County	432	532	684
Baltimore County	1,404	1,169	656
Montgomery County	490	435	506
Prince George's County	806	603	789
Other 19 Counties	2,278	2,604	2,657
Total	7,569	6,057	6,086

Additional statistical tables in support of the need for additional judgeships in the circuit courts are enclosed as part of this certification package.

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DISTRICT COURT

The District Court has jurisdiction in both the criminal, including motor vehicle, and civil areas. It has jurisdiction over juvenile causes only in Montgomery County. The exclusive jurisdiction of the District Court generally includes all landlord/tenant cases; replevin actions; motor vehicle violations; criminal cases if the penalty is less than three years imprisonment or does not exceed a fine of \$2,500, or both; and civil cases involving amounts not exceeding \$2,500. It has concurrent jurisdiction with the circuit courts in civil cases over \$2,500 to, but not exceeding, \$10,000; and concurrent jurisdiction in misdemeanors and certain enumerated felonies. Since there are no juries provided in the District Court, a person entitled to and electing a jury trial must proceed to the circuit court.

Motor Vehicle

The number of motor vehicle cases recorded in the District Court of Maryland was on the increase once again. During Fiscal 1991, there were 1,160,473 motor vehicle filings compared to 1,110,597 filings during Fiscal 1990, an increase of 4.5 percent or nearly 50,000 additional filings. Increases in each of the five major jurisdictions contributed to the overall increase in motor vehicle filings. The most significant increase was realized in Prince George's County where a 19.5 percent increase was reported. There were 169,037 filings reported in Fiscal 1990 compared to 201,950 in Fiscal 1991, 32,913 additional filings. Baltimore City followed increasing by 11.6 percent, from 97,262 in Fiscal 1990 to the Fiscal 1991 level of 108,561 filings. Baltimore County, which reported 179,602 motor vehicle filings, increased by 7.5 percent. Anne Arundel and Montgomery Counties also reported increases of 3.4 percent and 2 percent, respectively.

Along with receiving more motor vehicle filings, the District Court also processed more motor vehicle cases. There were 1,028,899 cases processed in Fiscal 1990 compared to 1,058,060 in Fiscal 1991, an increase of 2.8 percent. That increase followed a 6.2 percent increase reported during the previous fiscal year. The 1,058,060 processed cases include 332,152 tried cases which represents an increase of 4.6 percent over the 317,436 tried cases reported in Fiscal 1990. There were also 642,450 paid cases, an increase of 1.4 percent over the previous fiscal year. The most significant increase was realized in the category of "other" dispositions which include jury trial prayers, nolle prosequi, and stet cases. An increase of 7 percent was reported in "other" dispositions, from 78,020 in Fiscal 1990 to the present level of 83,458 cases. The five major jurisdictions processed over 64 percent of the motor vehicle cases.

Criminal

An overall decrease of less than one percent realized in criminal filings during Fiscal 1991 can be attributed to decreases reported in criminal case filings in both Baltimore City and Anne Arundel County. There were 170,900 total criminal filings reported in Fiscal 1990 compared to 169,520 in Fiscal 1991, a decrease of 0.8 percent. Anne Arundel County reported a decrease of 9.3 percent, from 14,086 filings in Fiscal 1990 to the Fiscal 1991 level of 12,775 filings. Also decreasing was the number of filings reported in Baltimore City (2.2 percent), from 55,812 in Fiscal 1990 to 54,575 filings in Fiscal 1991. Each of the remaining three major jurisdictions reported increases with the most significant increase occurring in Prince George's County. There were 23,683 criminal filings reported in the aforementioned jurisdiction in Fiscal 1990 compared to the current level of 25,149 filings, an increase of 6.2 percent. Likewise, Montgomery and Baltimore Counties reported increases of 3 percent and 0.6 percent, respectively. Montgomery County reported 14,291 filings, while 18,648 criminal filings were reported in Baltimore County. Collectively, the five major jurisdictions reported 125,438 criminal filings or 74 percent of the total criminal caseload for Fiscal 1991.

Not unlike filings, criminal dispositions also decreased during the fiscal year by 2.7 percent. That decrease in criminal dispositions comes on the heels a 12.7 percent increase reported during the previous fiscal year. Decreases were reported in four of the five major jurisdictions. The most significant decrease was realized in Baltimore City where dispositions decreased by 9 percent, from 59,096 in Fiscal 1990 to the Fiscal 1991 level of 53,768 dispositions. Prince George's reported a decrease of 7.4 percent, from 26,937 in Fiscal 1990 to 24,939 criminal dispositions in Fiscal 1991. Baltimore and Anne Arundel Counties also reported decreases of 3 percent and .07 percent, respectively. The only major jurisdiction to report an increase (10 percent) was Montgomery County, from 12,940 in Fiscal 1990 to 14,237 in Fiscal 1991.

Civil

During Fiscal 1991, the number of civil cases filed in the District Court increased by 5.2 percent, from 729,745 in Fiscal 1990 to the current level of 767,894 filings. Remaining relatively consistent with the past several fiscal years, approximately 6.4 percent of the civil cases filed in the District Court were contested. Each of the five major jurisdictions reported increases in civil filings during Fiscal 1991. Anne Arundel County reported the most significant increase (15.9 percent), followed by Montgomery County with an increase of 6.8 percent. Baltimore County increased by 6 percent, while Baltimore City and Prince George's County realized increases of 3.1 percent and 1.2 percent, respectively.

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Of the 767,894 civil filings reported 542,238 (70.6 percent) were landlord and tenant cases. Contract and tort cases accounted for 25 percent (192,326) of the civil cases. The remaining 33,330 cases (4.4 percent) were comprised of "other" complaints, including attachments before judgment, confessed judgments, and replevin actions. Approximately 6.2 percent of the landlord and tenant cases were contested, while 8.1 percent of the contract and tort cases were contested.

The District Court also reported 22,096 special proceedings, including 2,777 emergency hearings, 5,665 domestic abuse cases, and 188 child abuse cases.

Trends

Fiscal Year 1991 marked the twentieth anniversary of the District Court of Maryland. It also marked the greatest number of filings recorded in the Court's history. There were 2,097,887 total filings reported during Fiscal 1991, an increase of 4.3 percent over the previous fiscal year. While motor vehicle and civil filings have steadily increased during the last seven years, criminal filings decreased slightly for the first time since Fiscal 1984.

Continuing an upward trend, motor vehicle filings and dispositions both increased during Fiscal 1991. The District Court received almost 50,000 additional motor vehicle cases this year and nearly 30,000 more cases were processed. Remaining fairly consistent with past years, more than 28 percent of the motor vehicle cases received were contested, 332,152 out of 1,160,473 cases. Baltimore County reported the highest contested rate with 40.9 percent, followed by Baltimore City with 39.7 percent of its motor vehicle cases being contested. The rate of contested motor vehicle cases in Anne Arundel County was 39.2 percent, 35,199 out of 89,835 cases. Montgomery and Prince George's Counties reported contested rates of 27.4 percent, and 20.9 percent, respectively. In addition to reporting the highest rate of contested cases, Baltimore County, for the third consecutive year, processed the greatest number of motor vehicle cases with 168,155 cases. Following closely were Montgomery and Prince George's Counties with 163,658 and 163,326 processed motor vehicle cases, respectively. Additionally, Prince George's County continued to report one of the highest percentage increases in motor vehicle filings and dispositions 19.5 percent and 16 percent, respectively.

For the second consecutive year, driving while intoxicated filings decreased. There were 42,406 DWI filings reported in the District Court during Fiscal 1990 compared to 39,707 in Fiscal 1991, a decrease of 6.4 percent. That figure compares with a 5.1 percent decrease reported in the previous fiscal year. Montgomery County was once again the only

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major jurisdiction to report an increase in driving while intoxicated cases. The most significant decrease was reported in Prince George's County, 19.9 percent.

During the past two fiscal years, the number of criminal filings reported by the District Court have leveled off. Attributing to the leveling trend are decreases that have been reported in several of the major jurisdictions. During Fiscal 1990, Prince George's, Montgomery, and Anne Arundel Counties all reported decreases in the number of criminal cases received. Anne Arundel County and Baltimore City reported decreases of 9.3 percent and 2.2 percent, respectively, for the current fiscal year. However, Baltimore City continues to contribute the greatest number of criminal filings from year-to-year. During Fiscal 1991, Baltimore City accounted for more than 32 percent of the total criminal caseload in the District Court. The remaining four major jurisdictions contributed 41.8 percent of the criminal cases.

Along with motor vehicle filings, civil filings also continued to increase during Fiscal 1991. The number of civil filings reported increased by 5.2 percent in Fiscal 1991. That figure represents a slightly higher increase than the 3.3 percent increase reported during Fiscal 1990. There was only one jurisdiction (Kent County) to report a decrease in civil filings during the current fiscal year. Again this year, the majority of the civil cases filed involved landlord and tenant disputes. Baltimore City and Prince George's County continue to contribute the greatest number of landlord and tenant filings, as well as the greatest number of overall civil filings. Likewise, over 40 percent of all contract and tort cases are filed in those jurisdictions.

The total number of cases processed in the District Court nearly surpassed the 2 million mark during Fiscal 1991. There were 1,997,071 cases processed during the year. With the volume of cases continuously increasing, the resources of the District Court, both judicial and nonjudicial, will undoubtedly be stretched to their limits. The strain placed on those resources will compel the judiciary to find new and creative means to dispose of an ever-increasing caseload in an effective and efficient manner.

FY 1992 First Quarter Workload Statistics - July 1 to September 30, 1991.

The District Court of Maryland realized increases in all three major categories during the first quarter of Fiscal 1992. Motor vehicle filings increased by 0.1 percent, while civil and criminal filings increased by 4.4 percent and 8.3 percent, respectively. Motor vehicle and criminal dispositions increased as well.

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The Court received 298,790 total motor vehicle cases during the first three months of Fiscal 1992, a slight increase of 287 cases over the 298,503 cases received during the previous fiscal year. A decrease of more than seventeen percent in Montgomery County contributed to the relatively slight increase realized in total motor vehicle cases during the quarter. In contrast to filings, the number of motor vehicle dispositions reported increased by 15,694 or 6 percent, from 261,216 during the first quarter of Fiscal 1991 to the present level of 276,910 dispositions. With respect to type of disposition, the greatest increase was realized in tickets tried. There were 78,507 tickets tried during the first three months of Fiscal 1991 compared to 90,724 during the same period of time in Fiscal 1992, an increase of 15.6 percent. Other dispositions, which include stet and nolle pros cases, increased by 8.9 percent while tickets paid increased by 1.0 percent.

The Court recorded 200,587 total civil filings during the first quarter of Fiscal 1992. That figure represents 8,472 additional cases over the 192,115 reported during the same period of time in Fiscal 1991. Categorically, the most significant increase was realized in landlord/tenant filings. There were 135,015 landlord/tenant filings reported in Fiscal 1991 compared to the Fiscal 1992 level of 142,813 filings, an increase of nearly 7,800 cases or 5.8 percent. "Other" civil filings followed with an increase of 565 filings and contract/tort with 109 additional filings reported. The increase realized in "other" filings follows a ten percent decrease reported during the same period of time in Fiscal 1991.

Criminal filings and dispositions both increased during the first quarter of Fiscal 1992. There were 3,678 additional criminal filings reported, from 44,324 in Fiscal 1991 to the present level of 48,002 filings. An increase of 5.6 percent was realized in criminal dispositions during the first three months of Fiscal 1992, from 44,939 dispositions reported in Fiscal 1991 to 47,472 dispositions reported thus far in Fiscal 1992. It might be interesting to note that during this same time period last year, both criminal filings and dispositions were experiencing decreases.

For a more detailed breakdown, see the following table.

**District Court
FY 1992 First Quarter**

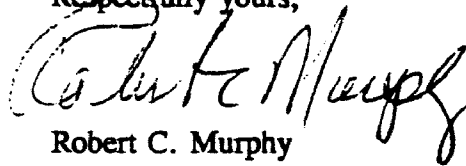
	FY 1991	FY 1992	Difference
<u>Motor Vehicle</u>			
1. Received	298,503	298,790	+287 0.1%
2. Total Dispositions	261,216	276,910	+15,694 6.0%
Tickets Tried	78,507	90,724	
Other Dispositions (Stet, Nolle Pros, Etc.)	20,135	21,924	
Paid	162,574	164,262	
<u>Civil</u>			
Total Filings	192,115	200,587	+8,472 4.4%
Landlord/Tenant	135,015	142,813	
Contract/Tort	48,734	48,843	
Other	8,366	8,931	
<u>Criminal</u>			
Filings	44,324	48,002	+3,678 8.3%
Dispositions	44,939	47,472	+2,533 5.6%

It is crystal clear from an analysis of this certification that the judges of Maryland are disposing of an ever-increasing massive caseload under great stress and strain. When the State's fiscal position improves, one of its first priorities must be to add badly needed

Honorable Thomas V. Miller, Jr.
Honorable R. Clayton Mitchell, Jr.
December 31, 1991
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additional judicial resources to the existing complement of judges if the Judicial Branch of Government is to maintain stability in the administration of justice in Maryland.

Respectfully yours,



Robert C. Murphy
Chief Judge

cc: Honorable William Donald Schaefer, Governor
Honorable Laurence Levitan, Chairman, Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
Honorable Walter M. Baker, Chairman, Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee
Honorable Charles J. Ryan, Chairman, House Appropriations Committee
Honorable John S. Arnick, Chairman, House Judiciary Committee
Honorable Louis L. Goldstein, State Comptroller
Honorable Alan M. Wilner, Chief Judge, Court of Special Appeals
Honorable Raymond G. Thieme, Jr., Chairman, Conference of Circuit Judges
Honorable Robert F. Sweeney, Chief Judge, District Court
Honorable Robert F. Fischer, Chairman, Executive Committee of the Maryland
Judicial Conference
Charles L. Benton, Secretary, Department of Budget and Fiscal Planning
Circuit Administrative Judges
Daryl C. Plevy, Esq., Executive Assistant, Office of the Governor
Stephen E. Harris, Esq., State Public Defender
George B. Riffin, Jr., Esq., State Court Administrator
F. Carvel Payne, Esq., Director, Department of Legislative Reference
Alfred C. Boyle, Budget Analyst, Department of Budget and Fiscal Planning
James L. Stoops, Administrative Analyst, Department of Fiscal Services



DISTRICT COURT OF MARYLAND

ROBERT F. SWEENEY
Chief Judge

Courts of Appeal Building
Annapolis Maryland 21401
Phone: 974-2412

November 21, 1991

The Honorable Robert C. Murphy
Chief Judge, Court of Appeals
County Courts Building, Fifth Floor
401 Bosley Avenue
Towson, Maryland 21204

Dear Judge Murphy:

I have consulted with each administrative judge of the District Court concerning the need for additional judgeships in their districts for Fiscal Year 1993.

In eleven districts the administrative judges and I are in agreement that a need does not exist. In the remaining district, Montgomery County, Judge Lohm and I are in agreement that the increase in caseload, and the lengthy workday per judge, is more than sufficient to justify a request for an additional judgeship. Because of the State's severe budget crisis, however, which has lead us to ask the Governor not to fill certain existing vacancies for the foreseeable future, Judge Lohm has decided to forgo the request until another year.

Judge Lohm has asked that I emphasize to you his strong belief, and my own, that any vacancy that might arise in the District Court in Montgomery County in the near future be filled at the earliest opportunity. In fairness to the judges in that district, we cannot both delay our request for an additional judge and also delay filling any vacancy that might occur.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature of Robert F. Sweeney in dark ink, written over a horizontal line.

Robert F. Sweeney

RFS:bja

cc: The Honorable Thomas A. Lohm

The Second Judicial Circuit of Maryland

CIRCUIT COURT FOR CAROLINE COUNTY

October 28, 1991

J. OWEN WISE
CIRCUIT ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGECOURT HOUSE
P.O. BOX 388
DENTON, MARYLAND 21029
301-479-2303

Mr. George B. Riggin, Jr.
State Court Administrator
Administrative Office of the Courts
Courts of Appeal Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Mr. Riggin:

I have received your statistical needs analysis request under date of October 3, 1991. As usual, I request you refer to my prior responses on the subject, most recently those dated May 7, 1990 and October 7, 1990. The sum and substance of our situation in the Second Circuit is that we are in need of another full-time associate judge. The greatest need is in Cecil County where I would propose the new judge be resident. The judge would be expected to assist us in the other counties in the Circuit on a fill-in and specially-assigned basis. As you can see by reference to the current statistics, Cecil County is building a backlog, particularly in the area of jury trial prayers and District Court appeals. While this has been anticipated, it has not been addressed in any effective fashion and the need has only become more critical.

Chief Judge Murphy's assistance in assigning retired judges to us (when they and money are available) has helped the situation from becoming critical sooner. So, too, has the use of retired judges in our settlement program been successful in reducing our civil trial dockets. Nevertheless, there are more cases than judges available to hear them.

There comes a time when short-term temporary measures are ineffective against long-term caseload growth. We believe that time arrived last year and the intervening months have only re-enforced our need.

I realize other Circuits also have great needs and that budgetary considerations may prevent any new judgeships being authorized. Neither of those factors alter my obligation to state the situation as I see it or to request what is justified.

Very truly yours,


J. Owen Wise

cc: Honorable Donaldson C. Cole, Jr.
Honorable Edward D. E. Rollins, Jr.



The Circuit Court for Baltimore County

THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF MARYLAND

CHAMBERS OF
EDWARD A. DeWATERS, JR.
CHIEF JUDGE AND
CIRCUIT ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE

October 28, 1991

COUNTY COURTS BUILDING
TOWSON, MARYLAND 21204
(301) 887-2842

The Honorable Robert C. Murphy
Chief Judge
The Court of Appeals of Maryland
Courts of Appeals Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Chief Judge Murphy:

This is in response to a request by the Administrative Office of the Courts concerning the report prepared on the need for additional judgeships, entitled Statistical Analysis of the Need for Additional Judgeships in the Circuit Court (Fiscal 1993).

As indicated in the chart below, the number of filings in the Circuit Court for Baltimore County has risen by more than 26 percent since Fiscal 1985. During that year, Baltimore County reported 20,176 original and reopened cases. In Fiscal 1991, the number of these filings totaled 25,384.

	<u>FY 85</u>	<u>FY 86</u>	<u>FY 87</u>	<u>FY 88</u>	<u>FY 89</u>	<u>FY 90</u>	<u>FY 91</u>
Civil	11,200	12,044	11,633	13,365	13,111	13,673	14,061
Juv.	3,177	3,719	3,975	3,425	3,478	3,862	3,368
Crm.	5,799	7,374	8,717	8,719	9,782	9,739	7,955
Total	20,176	23,137	24,325	25,509	26,371	27,274	25,384

A significant reduction in criminal filings occurred in Fiscal 1991, mostly due to the success of the Instant Jury Trial Program in Baltimore County. According to the Statistical Analysis Report, overall criminal filings declined 18.3 percent in the past year from 9,739 in Fiscal 1990 to 7,955 in Fiscal 1991. As of April, 1991, immediate jury trials (same day or next day) were made available in the Circuit Court to defendants requesting a jury trial in all five District Court locations in Baltimore County. This program has resulted in the reduction of approximately 200 to 250 crimi-

The Honorable Robert C. Murphy
October 28, 1991
Page 2

nal filings each month. Since April, approximately 100 jury trial requests are filed monthly in the Circuit Court as compared to approximately 350 requests filed prior to the initiation of the program.

Because of the accomplishments of this program and other case management techniques, I plan not to request an additional Circuit Court judgeship in the upcoming fiscal year for Baltimore County. It is my hope that with a full complement of judges and with the use of retired judges in settlement court, the Circuit Court for Baltimore County will be able to keep abreast of its burgeoning workload. I will continue to review our judicial needs within the upcoming year when construction of three new courtrooms and chambers is anticipated to begin.

With respect to Harford County, I do not plan to request an additional judge in Fiscal 1993.

Sincerely yours,


Edward A. DeWaters, Jr.

EADjr/mc

cc: The Honorable J. William Hinkel
The Honorable William O. Carr
Mr. George B. Riggins, Jr.
Mr. Peter J. Lally



FRED C. WRIGHT III
ASSOCIATE JUDGE
FOURTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
OF MARYLAND

COURT HOUSE
HAGERSTOWN, MD. 21740
TELEPHONE (301) 791-3111

November 5, 1991

Mr. George B. Riggin, Jr.
State Court Administrator
Administrative Office of the Courts
361 Rowe Blvd.
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: New Judgeships

Dear Mr. Riggin:

There is no need for additional judgeships in either Allegany or Garrett Counties.

However implementation of the 1991 legislation adding a fourth judge to the Circuit Court for Washington County is strongly urged.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Fred C. Wright, III".

Fred C. Wright, III
Administrative Judge
Fourth Judicial Circuit

FCW/ecp

STATE OF MARYLAND
FIFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY COURTHOUSE
ANNAPOLIS
21401

RAYMOND G. THIEME, JR.
CIRCUIT ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE

TELEPHONE (301) 280-1290

October 23, 1991

Honorable Robert C. Murphy
Chief Judge
Court of Appeals of Maryland
Courts of Appeal Building
Rowe Boulevard
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Re: Statistical Needs Analysis for New Judgeships
in Circuit Courts - 1992 Session (Fiscal 1993)

Dear Judge Murphy:

In response to George Riggin's memo of October 3, 1991, on the above, the only county that has requested an additional judge is Howard County. I am advised by Judge Kane that the supporting documentation will be forthcoming.

Considering the pressures of the docket in Howard County, I support his request.

Sincerely,



Raymond G. Thieme, Jr.

RGT:pjr

cc: Honorable Bruce C. Williams
Honorable Raymond J. Kane, Jr.
Honorable Raymond E. Beck, Sr.

STATE OF MARYLAND
FIFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
COURT HOUSE
ELLCOTT CITY
21043

RAYMOND J. KANE, JR.
JUDGE

AREA CODE 301
992-2080

October 25, 1991

Administrative Office of the Courts
Courts of Appeal Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

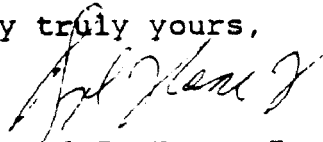
Attn: George B. Riggin, Jr.

Dear Mr. Riggin:

My colleagues and I believe there is a need for an additional judgeship in the Circuit Court for Howard County and we would appreciate your endorsement of our request for a new judge. I attended a membership meeting of the Howard County Bar Association today and the membership passed a resolution in support of a new judgeship. I also met with County Executive Charles Ecker who stated that he would support the fifth judgeship and "would make every effort possible" to staff the position, keeping in mind the county's financial condition.

Trusting that you will endorse our efforts in this matter, I remain,

Very truly yours,


Raymond J. Kane, Jr.,
Judge

RJK/jf

Copies To: Honorable Robert C. Murphy
Honorable Raymond G. Thieme, Jr.



SIXTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
OF MARYLAND
JUDICIAL CENTER
50 COURTHOUSE SQUARE
ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND 20850

JOHN J. MITCHELL
CHIEF JUDGE

October 31, 1991

(301) 217-7590

The Honorable Robert C. Murphy
Chief Judge
Court of Appeals of Maryland
Courts of Appeal Building
Rowe Boulevard
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Re: Statistical Needs Analysis for New Judgeships
in the Circuit Courts - 1992 Session
(Fiscal 1993)

Dear Judge Murphy:

In response to your statistical needs analysis for additional circuit court judgeships for fiscal 1993, I have reviewed the information contained therein and find that there is a need for an additional judge for the Sixth Judicial Circuit.

This is the fourth consecutive year that Frederick County has statistically shown a need for an additional judgeship however, they have been denied certification and funding for such a position. During the past six fiscal years and since the third judge was added to their compliment, Frederick County has experienced a 203.6% increase in criminal filings, a 69.6% increase in civil filings, and a 74.4% increase in juvenile filings. Increased population (see attachment A), industry, and employment growth have steadily accelerated which no doubt has contributed to the 94.2% increase in total filings. (See attachment B) Frederick County now exhibits the highest need state-wide, of 1.9 additional judgeships.

I have regularly scheduled my colleagues in Montgomery County to sit in Frederick to accommodate that County with its crushing caseload and in one case, Montgomery County lost .4 of a judicial man-year for one Frederick County case. As we have indicated before, the statistical needs analysis utilized by the Administrative Office of the Courts takes many factors into account, but it does not consider length of trial. For example, removing a judge from the master assignment for approximately four months and allowing credit for one case filing and one disposition tends to produce a misleading statistic. Furthermore, in the same instance, one court lost

October 31, 1991
Page Two
The Hon. Robert C. Murphy

.4 man-years and another court gained that resource. Albeit the same judicial circuit received credit for one case filing and one disposition, our court not only lost the one filing and disposition statistic, but also lost a judge for sixteen weeks. Here, the analysis unfairly distorts workload measures and does not reflect the intensity and litigious filing with which the circuit contends on a daily basis.


In Table 4, the Sixth Judicial Circuit reflects the highest actual and projected population increase state-wide. In addition to this calculation, the analysis in Table 5 uses an assumption of a full compliment of judges for workload measures. This component is inequitable if Montgomery County does not receive the fifteenth judge as authorized for this fiscal year. Correspondingly, the fourteenth judge did not arrive until April of 1991; and we lost a judge to our colleagues in Frederick County for 4 months during the same time period. Thus, if correct man-years were applied, Montgomery County would rank sixth in filings per judge rather than eleventh, first in population per judge rather than second, and second in pending cases per judge rather than third.

Frederick County currently has three circuit court courtrooms, and three District Court courtrooms of which two of the latter are used on a regular basis. Judge Dwyer has communicated with the new Board of County Commissioners and they are aware of permanent space needs for the circuit court and have incorporated plans in the capital improvement project.

I have exhaustively reviewed the statistical needs analysis, and I appreciate the difficult period of fiscal austerity in which we find ourselves, both at the state and local levels. I am, however, sincerely hopeful you are cognizant of our dilemma of coping with a demanding caseload, rising population, and the lack of judicial resources to cope with this perplexing situation.

In summary, I strongly request your assistance in securing an appointment of the vacancy in Montgomery County and again seek your support in certifying to the General Assembly the need for an additional circuit court judge in Frederick County.

Very truly yours,



John J. Mitchell

JJM/phq
attachments

cc: George B. Riggin, Jr., State Court Administrator
The Honorable G. Edward Dwyer, Jr.

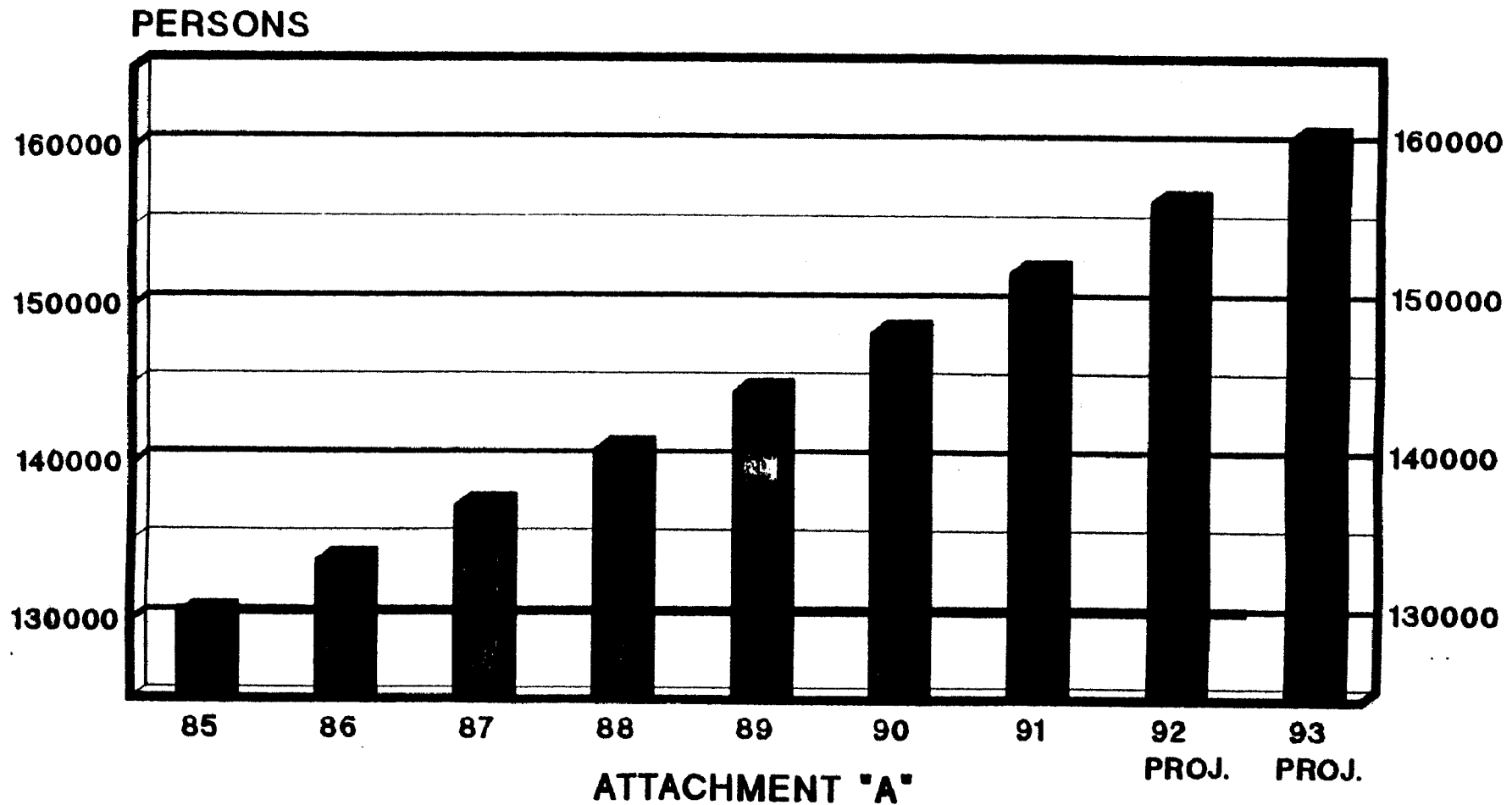
ATTACHMENT

"A"

FREDERICK COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT FISCAL 1985 THROUGH 1993

Population

Last new judge



ATTACHMENT

"B"

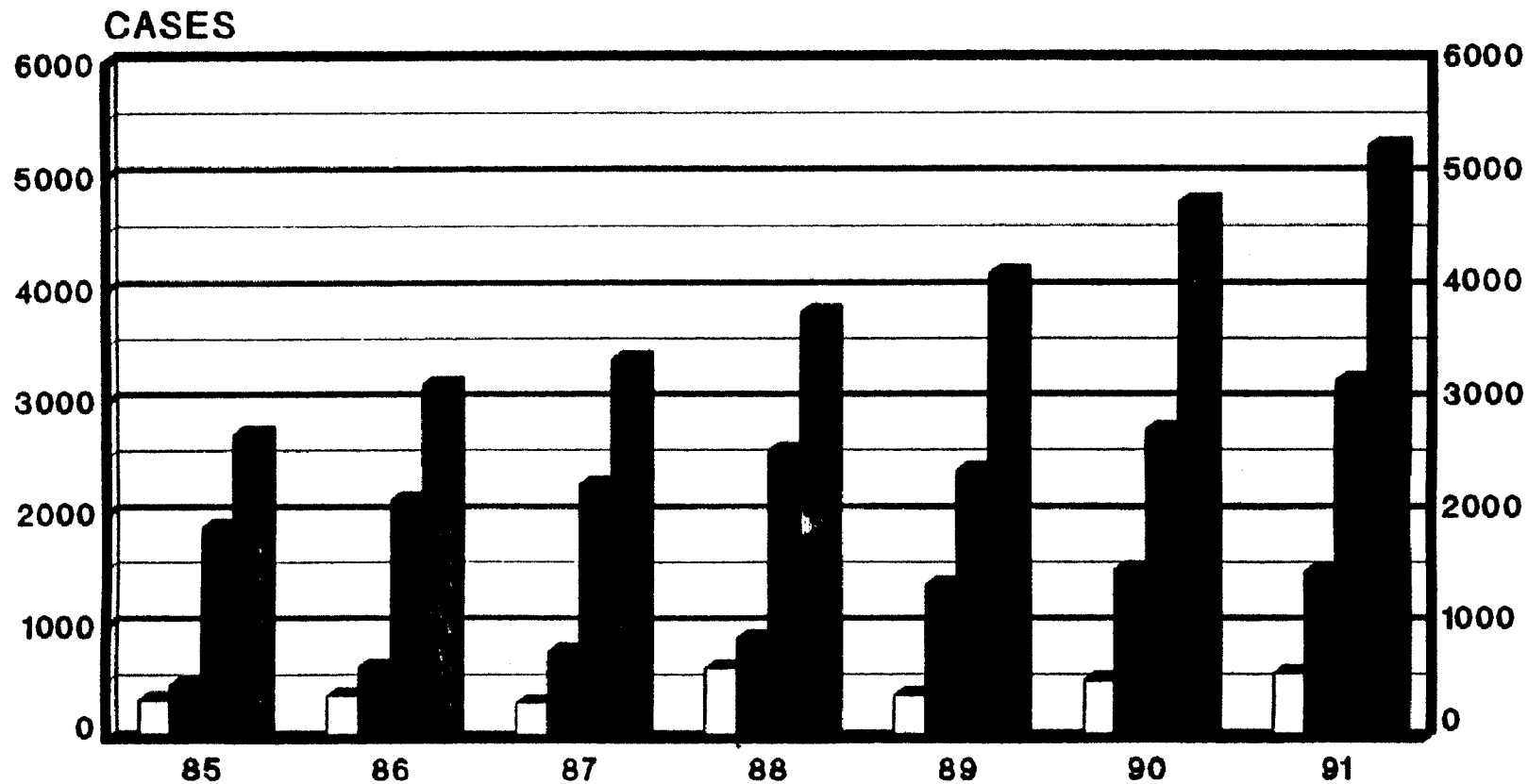
FREDERICK COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT FISCAL 1985 THROUGH 1991

Juvenile

Criminal

Civil

Filings



ATTACHMENT "B"

ATTACHMENT

"C"

FREDERICK COUNTY TRIALS AND HEARINGS

FISCAL 1986 THROUGH 1991

JURY
TRIALS

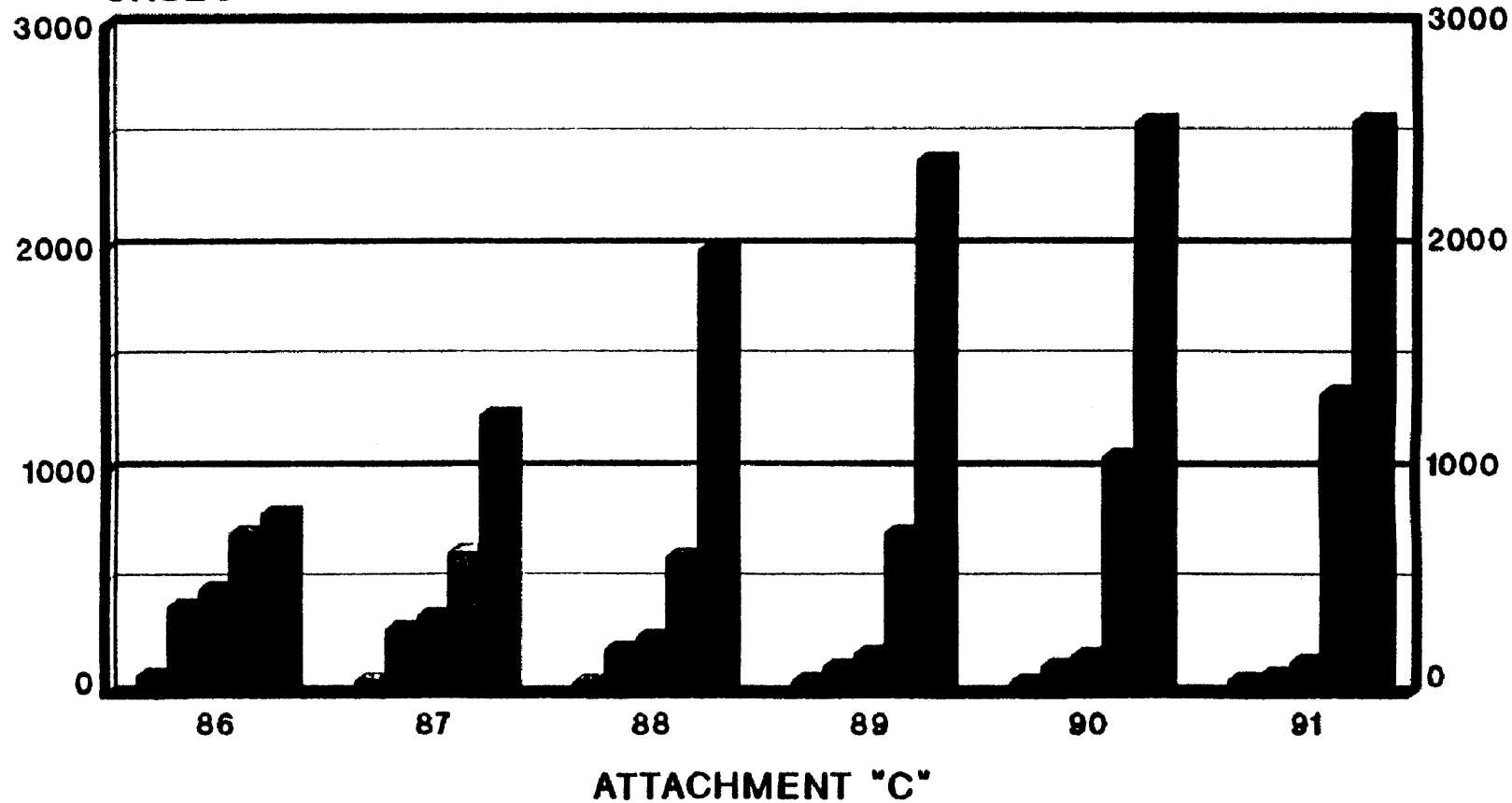
COURT
TRIALS

TOTAL
TRIALS

JUVENILE
HEARINGS

COURT
HEARINGS

CASES



Seventh Judicial Circuit of Maryland

COURT HOUSE

UPPER MARLBORO, MARYLAND 20870

ERNEST A. LOVELESS, JR.
CHIEF JUDGE
CIRCUIT ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE

(301) 952-4093

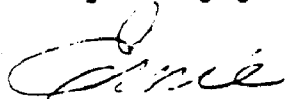
November 6, 1991

The Honorable Robert C. Murphy
County Courts Building
Towson, Maryland 21204

Dear Judge Murphy:

Based upon the statistics furnished by the Administrative Office of the Courts and serious nature of the cases now heard in the Seventh Circuit, it appears that in normal times we would be entitled to one additional judge in Prince George's County and a second judge for the rest of the Circuit. However, in light of the critical fiscal situation, I do not feel it would be prudent at this time to request any additional judgeships for FY '93.

Very truly yours,



Ernest A. Loveless, Jr.

Circuit Court
for
Baltimore City

111 NORTH CALVERT STREET
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND 21202

JOSEPH H. H. KAPLAN
ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE

October 8, 1991

396-5080
City Deaf TTY 396-4930

Hon. Robert C. Murphy
Chief Judge
Court of Appeals of Maryland
County Courts Building
401 Bosley Avenue
Towson, Maryland 21204

Dear Chief Judge Murphy:

From my review of the Statistical Needs Analysis for New Judgeships in the Circuit Courts -- 1992 Session (Fiscal 1993), it is obvious that Baltimore City would be entitled to 1.3 additional judges. It should be noted, however, that the Baltimore City judicial shortfall is even greater than shown in the study, a fact you would not have been aware of, because you had the right to assume that the assigned cross-designated District Court Judge was provided to the Circuit Court on a regular basis. Unfortunately, because of the District Court's shortage of judicial personnel, the Circuit Court has not had the advantage of the cross-designated District Court Judge for very substantial periods of time. That has resulted in taking judges off the other dockets of this Court so that the misdemeanor docket can be handled with some dispatch.

Another fact which you may not have been aware of is that because of the press of drug cases and drug related cases on our felony criminal docket, we have set up a separate felony drug court. We did this by taking one of our felony judges and making that judge the drug court judge. That reduces our regular felony judicial cadre down from nine judges to eight. As you know, of the eight remaining regular felony court judges, one judge serves as the felony arraignment court. Thus, we really only have seven regular felony trial courts.

In short, the staffing of nine judges on the felony side has remained the same for the last ten years, though our felony docket has, for the most part, increased about twenty


Hon. Robert C. Murphy
October 8, 1991
Page Two

percent a year during the last several years. Thus, the creation of the drug court, despite its advantages, to some extent dilutes our general felony coverage.

There is no question that we have a need for at least one additional judge, but, being cognizant of the State's and the City's financial plight, are not very hopeful that this is the year we will be getting the needed additional help. It should be noted that we do not have a space problem and could easily house two or three additional judges.

With best regards, I am

Sincerely yours,



Joseph H. H. Kaplan
Administrative Judge

JHHK:sp

cc: All Judges
George B. Riggin, Jr., Esq.

**STATISTICAL TABLES IN SUPPORT OF THE NEED FOR
ADDITIONAL JUDGESHIPS IN THE CIRCUIT COURTS**

FISCAL 1993

**Administrative Office of the Courts
Courts of Appeal Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
410/974-2141**

TABLE 1
STATEWIDE CIRCUIT COURT FILINGS BY CASE TYPE
FISCAL YEARS 1980 THROUGH 1991

Case Type	FY 80 Filings (% of Change)	FY 81 Filings (% of Change)	FY 82 Filings (% of Change)	FY 83 Filings (% of Change)	FY 84 Filings (% of Change)	FY 85 Filings (% of Change)	FY 86 Filings (% of Change)	FY 87 Filings (% of Change)	FY 88 Filings (% of Change)	FY 89 Filings (% of Change)	FY 90 Filings (% of Change)	FY 91 Filings (% of Change)
Civil ^a	86,295 (+6.50%)	75,336 (- 12.70%)	81,633 (+ 8.36%)	91,255 (+11.79%)	97,674 (+7.03%)	102,030 (+ 4.46%)	106,716 (+ 4.59%)	106,193 (- 0.49%)	112,645 (+ 6.08%)	116,009 (+ 3.10%)	128,893 (+11.11%)	136,685 (+ 6.05%)
Criminal ^b	39,007 (+1.27%)	46,061 (+18.08%)	30,575 (- 33.62%)	33,862 (+10.75%)	36,738 (+8.49%)	42,547 (+15.81%)	48,660 (+14.37%)	55,247 (+13.54%)	57,923 (+ 4.84%)	61,330 (+ 5.88%)	60,428 (- 1.47%)	69,451 (+14.93%)
Juvenile ^c	24,117 (+2.68%)	22,961 (- 4.79%)	26,481 (+15.33%)	26,518 (+ 0.14%)	26,626 (+0.41%)	27,387 (+ 2.86%)	30,834 (+12.59%)	32,439 (+ 5.21%)	32,806 (+ 1.13%)	36,336 (+10.76%)	36,598 (+ 0.72%)	32,716 (- 10.61%)
Total	149,419 (+4.43%)	144,358 (- 3.39%)	138,689 (- 3.93%)	151,635 (+ 9.33%)	161,038 (+6.20%)	171,964 (+ 6.78%)	186,210 (+ 8.28%)	193,879 (+ 4.12%)	203,374 (+ 4.90%)	213,765 (+ 5.11%)	225,919 (+ 5.69%)	238,852 (+ 5.72%)

^aBeginning in Fiscal 1985, "Law" and "Equity" were combined into one "Civil" category.

^bBeginning in Fiscal 1982, Baltimore City changed its criminal counting procedures from individual charges to cases which are defined as charges arising out of a single incident.

^cExcludes juvenile causes in Montgomery County which is the jurisdiction of the District Court.

NOTE: During Fiscal 1981 and Fiscal 1982, reopened cases were counted when a hearing was held. In all other fiscal years, reopened cases are recorded at the time of the filing of the petition.

TABLE 2

**PROJECTIONS OF CIRCUIT COURT FILINGS FOR
EACH JURISDICTION IN MARYLAND THROUGH 1993**

Circuit/Jurisdiction	Actual							Projected		
	FY 84	FY 85	FY 86	FY 87	FY 88	FY 89	FY 90	FY 91	FY 92	FY 93
<u>First Circuit</u>	6,398	6,366	7,552	7,670	7,930	8,836	8,947	9,190	9,699	10,088
Dorchester	1,305	1,480	1,837	1,865	1,726	1,800	1,792	1,674	1,707	1,691
Somerset	800	759	940	1,021	1,108	1,314	1,334	1,579	1,692	1,835
Wicomico	2,583	2,245	2,644	2,604	2,994	3,621	3,663	3,577	3,912	4,091
Worcester	1,710	1,882	2,131	2,180	2,102	2,101	2,158	2,360	2,388	2,471
<u>Second Circuit</u>	5,369	5,625	5,891	6,259	6,939	7,840	9,238	9,721	10,872	11,844
Caroline	687	897	977	1,016	1,180	1,238	1,283	1,401	1,453	1,523
Cecil	2,356	2,484	2,376	2,549	2,897	3,194	3,817	4,001	4,461	4,854
Kent	388	372	551	668	643	661	883	966	1,086	1,205
Queen Anne's	991	939	944	951	1,045	1,306	1,654	1,648	1,953	2,168
Talbot	947	933	1,043	1,075	1,174	1,441	1,601	1,705	1,919	2,094
<u>Third Circuit</u>	22,931	25,144	28,487	29,792	31,968	33,334	33,713	31,603	32,476	32,404
Baltimore	18,352	20,176	23,137	24,325	25,509	26,371	27,274	25,384	26,267	26,319
Harford	4,579	4,968	5,350	5,467	6,459	6,963	6,439	6,219	6,209	6,085
<u>Fourth Circuit</u>	5,378	5,947	6,645	6,679	7,463	8,097	8,832	8,645	9,330	9,757
Allegany	1,544	1,702	1,935	1,828	2,052	2,226	2,296	2,366	2,488	2,589
Garrett	701	718	684	747	906	949	1,063	1,090	1,169	1,235
Washington	3,133	3,527	4,026	4,104	4,505	4,922	5,473	5,189	5,673	5,933
<u>Fifth Circuit</u>	23,727	26,037	26,681	25,329	25,611	26,808	31,675	38,995	42,027	46,529
Anne Arundel	16,501	18,250	18,257	16,723	15,717	16,565	19,960	26,633	28,759	32,369
Carroll	3,434	3,543	3,603	3,757	4,049	4,247	4,563	4,978	5,235	5,545
Howard	3,792	4,244	4,821	4,849	5,845	5,996	7,152	7,384	8,038	8,615
<u>Sixth Circuit</u>	18,465	19,651	20,837	22,265	25,328	30,860	30,849	30,577	33,338	34,912
Frederick	2,574	2,718	3,163	3,388	3,805	4,159	4,787	5,281	5,772	6,278
Montgomery	15,891	16,933	17,674	18,877	21,523	26,701	26,062	25,296	27,566	28,634
<u>Seventh Circuit</u>	35,561	36,066	39,422	43,583	45,077	46,932	49,807	50,728	53,094	55,076
Calvert	1,317	1,467	1,585	1,536	1,695	1,793	2,913	2,868	3,477	3,941
Charles	3,010	3,195	3,804	4,710	4,733	4,825	4,741	4,934	4,938	4,990
Prince George's	29,653	29,916	32,542	34,525	35,314	36,533	38,931	39,037	40,846	42,202
St. Mary's	1,581	1,488	1,491	2,812	3,335	3,781	3,222	3,889	3,833	3,943
<u>Eighth Circuit</u>	43,209	47,128	50,695	52,302	53,058	51,058	52,858	59,393	59,293	61,374
Baltimore City	43,209	47,128	50,695	52,302	53,058	51,058	52,858	59,393	59,293	61,374
Statewide	161,038	171,964	186,210	193,879	203,374	213,765	225,919	238,852	250,129	261,984

^aFor Fiscal Years 1992 and 1993, projections are based on a linear regression method of forecasting utilizing data from Fiscal Year 1984 through Fiscal Year 1991. In some instances, data may be deleted because it may skew projections.

^bExcludes juvenile cases heard in Montgomery County.

NOTE: Used FY 1988 to FY 1991 data to project FY 1992 and FY 1993.

TABLE 3
FILING TO DISPOSITION OF CASES TERMINATED
IN FISCAL 1988, 1989, 1990, AND 1991

	Average in Days - Filing to Disposition							
	All Criminal Cases				Excluding Cases Over 360 Days*			
	FY 88	FY 89	FY 90	FY 91	FY 88	FY 89	FY 90	FY 91
<u>First Circuit</u>								
Dorchester	99	110	175	144	98	110	162	136
Somerset	159	162	139	141	132	114	127	114
Wicomico	94	100	86	91	94	99	85	90
Worcester	130	116	125	113	124	113	122	109
<u>Second Circuit</u>								
Caroline	176	133	139	153	170	133	133	153
Cecil	183	145	157	184	150	145	148	175
Kent	232	165	170	168	113	165	159	158
Queen Anne's	156	131	136	135	134	131	133	129
Talbot	189	174	177	132	174	174	163	129
<u>Third Circuit</u>								
Baltimore	158	132	172	114	105	89	102	98
Harford	209	215	196	193	147	148	144	135
<u>Fourth Circuit</u>								
Allegany	195	164	172	160	173	145	149	143
Garrett	116	127	127	135	107	123	127	135
Washington	139	144	146	181	129	138	136	164
<u>Fifth Circuit</u>								
Anne Arundel	178	187	199	173	150	149	143	138
Carroll	240	198	195	148	199	176	148	124
Howard	190	163	154	152	138	131	131	128
<u>Sixth Circuit</u>								
Frederick	191	174	175	216	155	149	160	169
Montgomery	234	246	231	244	175	168	150	194
<u>Seventh Circuit</u>								
Calvert	104	98	105	133	98	98	102	124
Charles	152	150	150	173	146	145	143	153
Prince George's	127	141	145	149	114	125	126	121
St. Mary's	233	198	157	192	149	160	138	128
<u>Eighth Circuit</u>								
Baltimore City	109	118	129	215	90	91	105	109
Statewide	152	155	155	173	120	121	120	120

*This column provides a more accurate estimate of average case time by excluding older cases which may have failed to be reported statistically as closed.

TABLE 3 (cont'd.)

**FILING TO DISPOSITION OF CASES TERMINATED
IN FISCAL 1988, 1989, 1990, AND 1991**

	Average in Days - Filing to Disposition							
	All Civil Cases				Excluding Cases Over 721 Days*			
	FY 88	FY 89	FY 90	FY 91	FY 88	FY 89	FY 90	FY 91
<u>First Circuit</u>								
Dorchester	236	208	273	432	172	144	181	225
Somerset	174	189	158	260	109	117	102	165
Wicomico	258	223	190	300	185	173	147	211
Worcester	187	203	196	221	163	169	151	181
<u>Second Circuit</u>								
Caroline	209	206	228	190	165	165	154	155
Cecil	195	236	218	220	156	170	159	149
Kent	238	209	238	273	179	136	157	190
Queen Anne's	221	233	192	190	182	176	166	155
Talbot	253	248	254	217	171	198	189	169
<u>Third Circuit</u>								
Baltimore	332	344	342	349	207	202	204	199
Harford	N/A	580	356	336	187	200	199	209
<u>Fourth Circuit</u>								
Allegany	N/A	324	395	425	282	199	234	255
Garrett	189	171	175	176	167	164	161	167
Washington	230	251	196	269	175	169	152	149
<u>Fifth Circuit</u>								
Anne Arundel	308	299	427	515	203	204	227	203
Carroll	286	257	247	251	180	194	189	187
Howard	509	333	309	294	256	246	243	224
<u>Sixth Circuit</u>								
Frederick	258	231	294	240	185	187	196	191
Montgomery	355	402	437	315	258	233	226	227
<u>Seventh Circuit</u>								
Calvert	257	312	235	317	193	216	177	207
Charles	229	215	224	266	171	177	171	187
Prince George's	325	327	344	334	217	216	237	222
St. Mary's	266	241	275	252	186	165	171	169
<u>Eighth Circuit</u>								
Baltimore City	375	368	352	421	216	220	216	231
					213			
Statewide	354	338	341	353		208	211	211

*This column provides a more accurate estimate of average case time by excluding older which may have failed to be reported statistically as closed.

TABLE 3 (cont'd.)

**FILING TO DISPOSITION OF CASES TERMINATED
IN FISCAL 1988, 1989, 1990, AND 1991**

	Average in Days - Filing to Disposition							
	All Juvenile Cases				Excluding Cases Over 271 Days*			
	FY 88	FY 89	FY 90	FY 91	FY 88	FY 89	FY 90	FY 91
<u>First Circuit</u>								
Dorchester	31	33	46	67	31	33	46	67
Somerset	17	24	98	40	12	24	21	18
Wicomico	39	35	41	55	37	35	39	40
Worcester	76	58	65	71	56	58	54	56
<u>Second Circuit</u>								
Caroline	82	47	71	104	72	47	71	52
Cecil	61	57	69	97	56	57	53	75
Kent	57	44	61	50	43	44	61	50
Queen Anne's	55	42	63	48	51	42	60	48
Talbot	65	48	96	52	57	48	78	52
<u>Third Circuit</u>								
Baltimore	143	57	62	95	46	51	54	58
Harford	60	57	55	65	38	54	55	63
<u>Fourth Circuit</u>								
Allegany	65	49	57	66	57	48	57	62
Garrett	50	49	36	41	50	49	36	41
Washington	41	51	49	77	40	49	45	58
<u>Fifth Circuit</u>								
Anne Arundel	92	91	104	126	84	84	93	89
Carroll	92	64	66	72	78	58	64	51
Howard	79	72	71	89	65	57	64	61
<u>Sixth Circuit</u>								
Frederick	86	91	103	118	78	77	86	97
Montgomery	145	160	153	160	108	112	104	107
<u>Seventh Circuit</u>								
Calvert	111	157	76	110	94	93	65	73
Charles	76	71	78	78	68	71	71	76
Prince George's	76	84	80	103	72	76	73	76
St. Mary's	98	94	85	128	94	73	85	72
<u>Eighth Circuit</u>								
Baltimore City	102	85	88	108	65	64	69	77
Statewide	111	84	86	107	67	67	70	76

*This column provides a more accurate estimate of average case time by excluding older cases which may have failed to be reported statistically as closed.

TABLE 4

**MARYLAND POPULATION CHANGE BETWEEN 1980 AND 1990 CENSUS
AND POPULATION PROJECTIONS THROUGH JULY 1, 1992**

Circuit/Jurisdiction	Actual Population		Actual Annual Rate of Change %	Population Projections		Projected Annual Rate of Change
	April 1, 1980	April 1, 1990		July 1, 1990 ^a	July 1, 1992 ^b	
<u>First Circuit</u>	145,240	163,043	1.23	163,500	169,800	1.93
Dorchester	30,623	30,236	-0.13	30,230	30,300	0.12
Somerset	19,188	23,440	2.22	23,550	20,300	-6.90
Wicomico	64,540	74,339	1.52	74,590	76,800	1.48
Worcester	30,889	35,028	1.34	35,130	42,400	10.35
<u>Second Circuit</u>	151,380	180,726	1.94	181,460	186,500	1.39
Caroline	23,143	27,035	1.68	27,130	26,600	-0.98
Cecil	60,430	71,347	1.81	71,620	77,200	3.90
Kent	16,695	17,842	0.69	17,870	17,400	-1.32
Queen Anne's	25,508	33,953	3.31	34,170	36,100	2.82
Talbot	25,604	30,549	1.93	30,670	29,200	-2.40
<u>Third Circuit</u>	801,545	874,266	0.91	876,090	874,800	-0.07
Baltimore	655,615	692,134	0.56	693,050	691,600	-0.10
Harford	145,930	182,132	2.48	183,040	183,200	0.04
<u>Fourth Circuit</u>	221,132	224,477	0.15	224,560	218,500	-1.35
Allegany	80,548	74,946	-0.70	74,810	70,900	-2.61
Garrett	27,498	28,138	0.23	28,150	26,300	-3.29
Washington	113,086	121,393	0.73	121,600	121,300	-0.12
<u>Fifth Circuit</u>	585,703	737,939	2.60	741,750	775,600	2.28
Anne Arundel	370,775	427,239	1.52	428,650	448,200	2.28
Carroll	96,356	123,372	2.80	124,050	133,700	3.89
Howard	118,572	187,328	5.80	189,050	193,700	1.23
<u>Sixth Circuit</u>	693,845	907,235	3.08	912,580	954,600	2.30
Frederick	114,792	150,208	3.09	151,100	156,700	1.85
Montgomery	579,053	757,027	3.07	761,480	797,900	2.39
<u>Seventh Circuit</u>	832,355	957,768	1.51	960,910	958,600	-0.12
Calvert	34,638	51,372	4.83	51,790	56,900	4.93
Charles	72,751	101,154	3.90	101,870	110,100	4.04
Prince George's	665,071	729,268	0.97	730,870	712,900	-1.23
St. Mary's	59,895	75,974	2.68	76,380	78,700	1.52
<u>Eighth Circuit</u>	786,775	736,014	-0.65	734,750	734,600	-0.01
Baltimore City	786,775	736,014	-0.65	734,750	734,600	-0.01
Statewide	4,217,975	4,781,468	1.34	4,795,600	4,873,000	0.81

SOURCES: Bureau of the Census, and Maryland Population Report July 1, 1987 and Projections to 1992, Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Center for Health Statistics.

^aThe July 1, 1990 population estimate was prepared by the Administrative Office of the Courts by adding to the 1990 census population (April 1, 1990) 1/40th the change between the 1980 and 1990 censuses for each political subdivision. The subdivisions were then summed to obtain the total state population.

^bChange in population from one year to the next is dependent upon two factors -- natural increase and net migration. Natural increase is the excess of births over deaths. Net migration is the difference between the number of people moving into an area and the number moving out. For further information, see source documents above.

TABLE 5
COMPARATIVE WORKLOAD MEASURES PER CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE^a
(Fiscal Year 1991)

Jurisdiction (Number of Judges)	(1) Filings Per Judge (Rank)	(2) Pending Cases Per Judge (Rank)	(3) Dispositions Per Judge (Rank)	(4) Population Per Judge ^b (Rank)	(5) Attorney/Judge ^c Ratio (Rank)
First Circuit					
Dorchester (1)	1,674 (12)	1,328 (13)	1,586 (8)	30,300 (15)	32 (19)
Somerset (1)	1,579 (16)	718 (18)	1,509 (12)	20,200 (23)	16 (24)
Wicomico (3)	1,192 (20)	513 (23)	1,227 (18)	25,233 (21)	45 (15)
Worcester (2)	1,180 (22)	908 (17)	1,015 (22)	20,600 (22)	47 (13)
Second Circuit					
Caroline (1)	1,401 (18)	649 (21)	1,258 (17)	26,300 (20)	28 (22)
Cecil (2)	2,001 (5)	1,480 (9)	1,680 (6)	37,800 (10)	41 (16)
Kent (1)	996 (24)	551 (22)	832 (24)	17,300 (24)	41 (17)
Queen Anne's (1)	1,648 (14)	663 (20)	1,514 (11)	35,100 (14)	58 (12)
Talbot (1)	1,705 (9)	673 (19)	1,665 (7)	28,900 (18)	119 (6)
Third Circuit					
Baltimore (15)	1,692 (10)	1,938 (6)	1,533 (10)	45,940 (6)	173 (4)
Harford (4)	1,555 (17)	2,065 (4)	1,262 (16)	44,875 (7)	79 (8)
Fourth Circuit					
Allegany (2)	1,183 (21)	1,043 (15)	1,074 (21)	35,900 (12)	47 (14)
Garrett (1)	1,090 (23)	447 (24)	1,082 (20)	26,400 (19)	28 (23)
Washington (4)	1,297 (19)	955 (16)	1,192 (19)	30,150 (16)	34 (18)
Fifth Circuit					
Anne Arundel (9)	2,959 (1)	3,008 (2)	2,571 (2)	49,044 (4)	131 (5)
Carroll (3)	1,659 (13)	1,718 (7)	1,346 (15)	43,333 (8)	66 (10)
Howard (4)	1,846 (7)	1,559 (8)	1,581 (9)	46,575 (5)	207 (3)
Sixth Circuit					
Frederick (3)	1,760 (8)	1,362 (12)	1,365 (14)	50,900 (3)	78 (9)
Montgomery ^d (15)	1,686 (11)	2,797 (3)	966 (23)	51,640 (2)	299 (1)
Seventh Circuit					
Calvert (1)	2,868 (2)	1,431 (11)	3,076 (1)	54,800 (1)	66 (11)
Charles (3)	1,645 (15)	1,454 (10)	1,425 (13)	35,600 (13)	31 (21)
Prince George's (19)	2,055 (4)	1,961 (5)	1,707 (4)	37,258 (11)	80 (7)
St. Mary's (2)	1,945 (6)	1,277 (14)	1,682 (5)	38,500 (9)	32 (20)
Eighth Circuit					
Baltimore City (25)	2,376 (3)	4,667 (1)	2,115 (3)	29,520 (17)	209 (2)
Statewide (123)	1,942	2,471	1,639	39,085	143

^aThe number of judges used in developing the rankings in this chart is based on the number authorized in Fiscal 1992 (123 statewide).

^bPopulation estimate for July 1, 1991, issued by the Maryland Center for Health Statistics.

^cAttorney statistics obtained from the Administrator of the Clients' Security Trust Fund as of July 31, 1991. Out-of-state attorneys are not included in these ratios.

^dExcludes juvenile cases in Montgomery County which is the jurisdiction of the District Court.

TABLE 6

COMPARED RANKING OF VARIOUS FACTORS AFFECTING JUDGESHIP ALLOCATION

	Ranking of Predictive Factors				Ranking of Performance Factors (Inverted Ranking Used ^a to Show Longest Times)		
	Filings	Population	Pending Cases	Attorneys	Time/ Civil	Time/ Criminal	Time/ Juvenile
<u>First Circuit</u>							
Dorchester	12	15	13	19	225 (4)	136 (10)	67 (10)
Somerset	16	23	18	24	165 (20)	114 (20)	18 (24)
Wicomico	20	21	23	15	211 (7)	90 (24)	40 (23)
Worcester	22	22	17	13	181 (16)	109 (21)	56 (16)
<u>Second Circuit</u>							
Caroline	18	20	21	22	155 (21)	153 (6)	52 (17)
Cecil	5	10	9	16	149 (23)	175 (2)	75 (7)
Kent	24	24	22	17	190 (13)	158 (5)	50 (20)
Queen Anne's	14	14	20	12	155 (22)	129 (13)	48 (21)
Talbot	9	18	19	6	169 (17)	129 (14)	52 (18)
<u>Third Circuit</u>							
Baltimore	10	6	6	4	199 (11)	98 (23)	58 (14)
Harford	17	7	4	8	209 (8)	135 (11)	63 (11)
<u>Fourth Circuit</u>							
Allegany	21	12	15	14	255 (1)	143 (8)	62 (12)
Garrett	23	19	24	23	167 (19)	135 (12)	41 (22)
Washington	19	16	16	18	149 (24)	164 (4)	58 (15)
<u>Fifth Circuit</u>							
Anne Arundel	1	4	2	5	203 (10)	138 (9)	89 (3)
Carroll	13	8	7	10	187 (14)	124 (17)	51 (19)
Howard	7	5	8	3	224 (5)	128 (15)	61 (13)
<u>Sixth Circuit</u>							
Frederick	8	3	12	9	191 (12)	169 (3)	97 (2)
Montgomery	11	2	3	1	227 (3)	194 (1)	107 (1)
<u>Seventh Circuit</u>							
Calvert	2	1	11	11	207 (9)	124 (18)	73 (8)
Charles	15	13	10	21	187 (15)	153 (7)	76 (5)
Prince George's	4	11	5	7	222 (6)	121 (19)	76 (6)
St. Mary's	6	9	14	20	169 (18)	128 (16)	72 (9)
<u>Eighth Circuit</u>							
Baltimore City	3	17	1	2	231 (2)	109 (22)	77 (4)

^aLower number indicates greater need for judgeship. (For example, a number one ranking of a predictive factor would indicate a higher amount of volume whereas a number one ranking of a performance factor would indicate a slower ability to handle workload.)

TABLE 7
COLLECTIVE RANKING OF JURISDICTIONS
BY BOTH PREDICTIVE AND PERFORMANCE FACTORS**
(FISCAL 1991)

Summary of Predictive Factors by Jurisdiction*		Summary of Performance Factors by Jurisdiction*	
1. Anne Arundel County	(4.0)	1. Montgomery County	(1.7)
2. Baltimore City	(7.5)	2. Frederick County	(5.7)
3. Calvert County	(10.0)	3. Allegany County	(7.0)
4. Prince George's County	(10.0)	4. Anne Arundel County	(7.3)
5. Montgomery County	(10.5)	5. Dorchester County	(8.0)
6. Howard County	(11.25)	6. Charles County	(9.0)
7. Baltimore County	(13.0)	7. Baltimore City	(9.3)
8. Cecil County	(14.75)	8. Harford County	(10.0)
9. Frederick County	(15.0)	9. Prince George's County	(10.3)
10. Carroll County	(17.75)	10. Cecil County	(10.7)
11. Harford County	(18.5)	11. Howard County	(11.0)
12. St. Mary's County	(18.75)	12. Calvert County	(11.7)
13. Talbot County	(22.25)	13. Kent County	(12.7)
14. Dorchester County	(24.0)	14. St. Mary's County	(14.3)
15. Charles County	(24.75)	15. Washington County	(14.3)
16. Queen Anne's County	(27.0)	16. Caroline County	(14.7)
17. Allegany County	(29.75)	17. Baltimore County	(16.0)
18. Washington County	(30.75)	18. Talbot County	(16.3)
19. Somerset County	(32.75)	19. Carroll County	(16.7)
20. Worcester County	(33.75)	20. Garrett County	(17.7)
21. Caroline County	(34.5)	21. Worcester County	(17.7)
22. Wicomico County	(35.5)	22. Wicomico County	(18.0)
23. Kent County	(39.25)	23. Queen Anne's County	(18.7)
24. Garrett County	(39.75)	24. Somerset County	(21.3)

*Collective ranking determine by assigning a weight of three to filing per judge, a weight of one to population per judge, a weight of two to pending cases per judge, and a weight of one to attorney/judge ratio.

*Collective ranking determined by assigning an equal weight (of one) to the filing to disposition times of criminal, civil, and juvenile cases. (Inverted ranking to show longest times.)

**Lower number indicates greater need for judgeship; for example, a number one ranking of a predictive factor would indicate a higher amount of volume whereas a number one ranking of a performance factor would indicate a slower ability to handle workload. If a jurisdiction is listed near the top of both lists, then this shows that a relatively strong need exists for a judge based on the variables considered.

TABLE 8

**PROJECTED NUMBER OF ESTIMATED NEED FOR ADDITIONAL JUDGES
IN THE CIRCUIT COURTS**

	Projected Filings 1993 ^a	No. of Judges	No. of Masters and Other Judicial Officers	Adjusted Number Judicial Officers	Average Projected No. of Filings Per Judicial Officer 1993	Judicial Officers by Standard ^a	Addtl. Judges Needed ^a
First Circuit^a							
Dorchester	1,659	1	0	1.0	1,659	1.4	0.4
Somerset	1,731	1	0	1.0	1,731	1.4	0.4
Wicomico	4,129	3	0	3.0	1,376	3.4	0.4
Worcester	2,455	2	0	2.0	1,228	2.0	0.0
Circuit Total	9,974	7	0	7.0	1,425	8.2	1.2
Second Circuit							
Caroline	1,601	1	0	1.0	1,601	1.3	0.3
Cecil	4,333	2	0	2.0	2,166	3.6	1.6
Kent	1,094	1	0	1.0	1,094	0.9	(0.1)
Queen Anne's	1,797	1	0	1.0	1,797	1.5	0.5
Talbot	1,891	1	0	1.0	1,891	1.6	0.6
Circuit Total	10,716	6	0	6.0	1,786	8.9	2.9
Third Circuit							
Baltimore	26,319	15	2.4	17.4	1,513	17.5	0.1
Harford	6,100	4	0.6	4.6	1,326	5.1	0.5
Circuit Total	32,419	19	3.0	22.0	1,474	22.6	0.6
Fourth Circuit							
Allegany	2,637	2	1.0	3.0	879	2.2	(0.8)
Garret	1,211	1	0	1.0	1,211	1.0	0.0
Washington	5,595	4	0	4.0	1,399	4.7	0.7
Circuit Total	9,443	7	1.0	8.0	1,180	7.9	(0.1)
Fifth Circuit							
Anne Arundel	19,068	9	3.0	12.0	1,948	12.7	0.7
Carroll	5,209	3	1.0	4.0	1,302	4.3	0.3
Howard	8,405	4	2.0	6.0	1,401	7.0	1.0
Circuit Total	32,682	16	6.0	22.0	1,682	24.0	2.0
Sixth Circuit							
Frederick	5,875	3	0	3.0	1,958	4.9	1.9
Montgomery	30,793	15	5.4	20.4	1,509	20.5	0.1
Circuit Total	36,668	18	5.4	23.4	1,567	25.4	2.0
Seventh Circuit							
Calvert	2,778	1	0	1.0	2,778	2.3	1.3
Charles	4,971	3	0	3.0	1,657	4.1	1.1
Prince George's	39,249	19	6.0	25.0	1,569	26.2	1.2
St. Mary's	3,943	2	0	2.0	1,972	3.3	1.3
Circuit Total	50,941	25	6.0	31.0	1,643	35.9	4.9
Eighth Circuit							
Baltimore City	58,438	25	12.7	37.7	1,550	39.0	1.3

Table 8 footnotes

^aCircuit courts in both Harford and Montgomery Counties hear matters that would ordinarily be heard by the Orphans' Court. Accordingly, case filings were added to projections in each jurisdiction. Approximately 15 case filings were added to Harford County's projection and 150 case filings to Montgomery County's projection for Fiscal 1993.

^bPart-time juvenile masters in some jurisdictions are calculated as a percentage of a judicial officer because of the number of filings handled yearly by these individuals. Judgeship count for Baltimore City includes one District Court judge who is assigned to the Circuit Court of Baltimore City on an annual basis for about 8 ½ months. This amounts to about 0.7 of additional judicial assistance yearly. Also included in the number of other judicial officers are retired judges who are recalled in some jurisdictions for settlement conferences in civil cases on a fixed "two-day-a-week" schedule. Full time and part-time domestic masters are included in this column but not masters who are compensated on a fee basis.

This column does not reflect the use of retired judges recalled to service because of unfilled judicial vacancies and illnesses of active judges to sit on the trial of cases for designated periods of time. In Fiscal 1991 a total of 873.1 judge days (including settlement conferences) were provided by retired circuit court judges.

Although efforts have been made to establish a weighted caseload statistical system, it has not been practicable to do so effectively. Obviously, in terms of time and complexity, some cases are many times more demanding than others. While each circuit court tends to have its share of these more difficult cases, some courts have experienced these cases in very substantial numbers; e.g., asbestos litigation in Baltimore City (3,000 pending cases) and Baltimore County (approximately 1,800 pending cases). The trial of these cases takes in the extreme sometimes 8-12 weeks. The same rationale is applicable in death penalty cases.

Increases in the number of projected filings is due in large part to the influx of criminal cases transferred to the circuit courts from the District Court where the defendant is entitled to and demands a jury trial. Less than 2 percent of these cases (total filings of 25,104 in Fiscal 1991) actually results in jury trials; most are disposed of by plea negotiation between the prosecution and defense rather than by actual trial.

^cThe scale utilized for this column in Fiscal 1993 is as follows: 1200 filings - 1 to 8 judicial officers and 1500 filings - 9 or more judicial officers.

^dA need for additional judgeships is shown by a number without parentheses, whereas, a surplus in judgeships is shown by a number in parentheses.

^eIn the First Circuit, Dorchester and Wicomico Counties share one judge equally; thus, making the actual allocation of judges 1.5 in Dorchester County and 2.5 in Wicomico County.